<u>CLAIMS</u>

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	what is claimed is:
1	1. A method for protecting exposed joint
2	connection portions on weight coated pipelines
3	comprising the steps of:
4	installing a cover material around the
5 ·	exposed joint connection such that the cover material
6	overlaps the weight coating on either side of the
7	exposed joint connection,
8	cutting an opening into the cover material,
9	sealing cover material together forming an
10	annular void between the pipe and the cover material,
11	injecting/fluid joint filler system
12	components through the opening into the annular void,
13	and /a
14	allowing the joint filler system to solidify
15	and fill the void.
1	2. A method of claim 1 wherein the fluid joint
2	filler system is a rapid setting polyurethane system.
1	3. $/$ A method of claim 1 wherein the cover
2	material is a pliable sheet of synthetic resin.
1	4/. The method of claim 3 wherein said step of
2	installing comprises the step of:
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3	forming the resin sheet into a cylinder
4	forming an annular pocket about the exposed joint
5	connection.

- 5. The method of claim wherein the cover material is sealed by heat welding.
- 1 6. The method of claim 4 wherein the cover 2 material is a thermoplastic synthetic resin.
- 7. The method of claim 4 wherein the cover material is polyethylene..
- 1 8. The method of claim 4 wherein the cover 2 material is between about 0.02 inches to about 0.5 3 inches in thickness.
- 9. The method of claim 4 wherein the opening is precut into the cover material.
- 1 10. The method of claim 4 wherein the joint 2 filler system is a rapid curing polyurethane system 3 which reacts to form a high density open celled foam 4 material in the annular void.

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1	11. A method for protecting exposed joint
2	connection portions on weight coated pipelines
3 ,	comprising the steps of:
4	installing a synthetic resin cover material
5	around the exposed joint connection by forming the
6	resin sheet into a cylinder which overlaps the weight
7	coating on either side of the exposed joint connection
8	forming an annular pocket about the exposed joint
9	connection,
10	sealing the cover material together forming a
11	sleeve,
12	cutting an opening into the cover material,
13	injecting a mixture of unreacted polyurethane
14	chemicals through the opening into the annular void,
15	and $\int_{\mathcal{B}}$
16	allowing the polyurethane chemicals to react
17	and completely fill the void.
1	12. The method of claim 11 wherein the outside
2	edge of the cover material is sealed to the cover
3	material by heat welding.
1	13. The method of claim 11 wherein the cover
2	material is a thermoplastic synthetic resin.

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1	14. The method of claim 11 wherein the cover
2	material is polyethylene.
1	15. The method of claim 11 wherein the cover
2	material is between about 0.02 inches to about 0.5
3	inches in thickness.
4	16. The method of claim 11 wherein the opening is
5	precut into the cover meterial.
1	17. An apparatus for protecting exposed pipe
2	joints on weight coated pipelines comprising:
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3	a pliable cover material overlapping adjacent
4	end portions of the weight coat, completely enclosing
5	the exposed pipe joint, and sealed in place forming an
6	annular space around the pipe;
7	said annular space between the exposed
8	pipeline and the cover/material filled with a joint
9	filling material.
1	18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the joint
2	filling material is a high density open celled
3	polyurethane foam, formed by reacting polyurethane
4	chemicals inside the cover material.

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- 1 19. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the pliable
- 2 cover material is formed from polyethylene.

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